

**COMPOSITIONS AND METHODS FOR STABILIZING SURFACE BOUND  
PROBES**

**ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

5

The present invention provides a probe composition, including (a) a substrate;  
(b) a probe molecule attached to the substrate; and (c) a stabilization polymer layer on  
the substrate, wherein said stabilization polymer layer coats the probe molecule. Also  
provided are methods for making and shipping a solid-phase probe having a

10 stabilization polymer layer.